

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. LEBANON: COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL DIALOGSE

THE NEWLY FORMED "COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL DIALOGUE," COMPOSED OF TEN CHRISTIANS AND TEN MOSLEMS, WAS DESIGNED AS THE ONLY WAY OUT OF THE CURRENT CRISIS. CONCEIVABLY IT WILL DAMPEN THE FIGHTING, BUT ITS LARGE AIM OF TACKLING BASIC SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ISSUES MAY PROVE MORE FORMIDABLE.

--THUS FAR, THE DIALOGUE COMMITTEE HAS SUCCEEDED ONLY IN APPLYING BALM TO NATIONAL WOUNDS REQUIRING RADICAL SURGERY; THE FACT THAT IT DID NOT COLLAPSE IN ITS FIRST MEETING IS ENCOURAGING, BUT THE PARTIES ARE STILL VERY FAR FROM ATTACKING NONSTRUCTIVELY THE SUBSTANTIVE

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ISSUES WHICH DIVIDE THEM.

--THE COMMITTEE'S CONFESSIONAL BALANCE SETS A PRECEDENT
FOG MEETING MOSLEM DEMANDS FOR GREATER POLITICAL POWER.

--THE LEVEL OF FIGHTING IN BEIRUT CONTINUES TO DROP BUT
THE CEASEFIRE IS NOT FULLY EFFECTIVE. (CONFIDENTIAL)
BEIRUT 11976 AND 12021, 9/26.)

2. EGYPT: REPO4T OF ANTI-SADAT RALLY

FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY TOLD AMBASSADOR EILTS THAT NASSERIST
AND MARXIST STUDENTS GATHERED AT AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY SEP-
TEMBER 21-24 TO PROTEST THE SINAI II DISENGAGEMENT TERMS.
SECURITY FORCES MADE SOME ARRESTS, INCLUDING PROMINENT LEFT-
IST KAMAL AL-DIN RIF'AT, A FORMER MINISTER OF LABOR AND
AMBASSADOR TO GREAT BRITAIN.

--THE GOE CONTINUES TO HAVE NIGHTMARES ABOUT A COALI-
TION OF THE FAR LEFT AND FAR RIGHT AGAINST SADAT.

--SHOULD TWO REVOLUTIONARY "HEROES" SUCH AS RIF'AT AND
RIGHTIST FORMER VP HUSSEIN SHAFAT ATTEMPT TO LEAD SUCH
A MOVEMENT, OR EVEN PUBLICLY CONDONE THE STUDENT PRO-
TEST, THE SITUATION WOULD BE SERIOUS. (SECRET) CAIRO
9586, 9/26.)

3. SOVIETS CURB INFIGHTING AT MOSCOW AFRO-ASIAN MEETING

AN EGYPTIAN EMBASSY OFFICER HAS PROVIDED EMBASSY MOSCOW WITH

SOME INFORMATION ON THE INFIGHTING AMONG THE MIDDLE EAST
DELEGATIONS DURING THE RECENT CONFERENCE OF THE AFRO-ASIAN
PEOPLES SOLIDARITY ORGANIZATION IN MOSCOW. ACCORDING TO THE
EGYPTIAN, THE GOE DELEGATION WAS CONCERNED BY A POSSIBLE
MOVE BY PALESTINIANS, SYRIANS AND IRAQIS TO INCORPORATE IN
THE CONFERENCE'S RESOLUTION LANGUAGE HOSTILE TO EGYPT.

--THE SOVIETS, HOWEVER, TOOK POSITIVE STEPS TO AVERT A
BREAKDOWN BOTH TO AVOID EXACERBATING INTER-ARAB DIFFER-
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ENCES AND TO SAVE THE SOVIETS THE EMBARRASSMENT OF A
COLLAPSE OF THE CONFERENCE.

--THE PALESTINIAN AND EGYPTIAN DELEGATIONS WOULD EACH
LEAVE THE HALL WHEN THE OTHER ROSE TO SPEAK AND WOULD
RETURN TO THE HALL ONLY AT THE URGING OF OTHER ARAB
DELEGATIONS.

A TURKISH SOURCE ALSO TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT THERE WERE RUMORS OF AN ATTEMPT TO PASS SOME SORT OF ANTI-TURKISH RESOLUTION, BUT THAT THE ATTEMPT EITHER FIZZLED OR WAS

SQUELCHED BY UNKNOWN FORCES. (CONFIDENTIAL) MOSCOW 13801, 9/26.)

4. ZAIRE: ANTI-MOBUTU ACTIVITY INCREASING

INDICATIONS OF MOUNTING POPULAR DISSATISFACTION WITH THE MOBUTU REGIME HAVE BEEN INCREASING. AS EXAMPLES: ANTI-

MOBUTU LEAFLETS HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED WIDELY IN KINSHASA BY MEMBERS OF OUTLAWED POLITICAL GROUPS, AND A CLANDESTINE RADIO STATION REPORTEDLY OPERATED BY BAKONGO SEPARATISTS BROADCAST FOR TWO WEEKS BEFORE BEING SHUT DOWN. (CONFIDENTIAL) KINSHASA 8678, 9/26.)

5. US INITIATIVES STIR PRODUCER INTEREST AT UNCTAD COCOA TALKS

US MISSION GENEVA REPORTS THAT OUR WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS A NEW FLEXIBLE AGREEMENT WITH WIDER PRICE RANGES AND MORE VIABLE ECONOMIC MECHANISMS, INCLUDING BUFFER STOCKS, HAS MET WITH PRODUCER INTEREST BUT CONSUMERS ARE RESISTING MAJOR

DEPARTURES FROM THE PRESENT AGREEMENT. DELEGATES APPEAR TO

LACK INSTRUCTIONS AND CONSIDERED REACTIONS MAY THEREFORE BE DELAYED SEVERAL DAYS. (CONFIDENTIAL) GENEVA 7361, 9/26.)

6. VIENNA: OIL MINISTERS STILL DEADLOCKED

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THE OPEC MEETING ADJOURNED LATE FRIDAY EVENING, APPARENTLY WITHOUT AN AGREEMENT, AND WILL RECONVENE SATURDAY MORNING. IRANIAN MINISTER AMOUZEGAR EMPHASIZED THAT HE THOUGHT OPEC WOULD ACCEPT NOTHING LESS THAN A 10 PERCENT PRICE INCREASE. (UNCLASSIFIED) VIENNA 8272, 9/26.) KISSINGER

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